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EDITORIAL NOTES.

A New Year and a new volume of the JOURNAL; three hundred and sixty-five blank days with their unknown happenings-to-be and about as many blank pages to contain unknown chronicles of as yet unhappened things. How stale and flat life would be if one knew a year ahead just what was going to happen; to awake every morning with a knowledge of every incident of the day ahead! Why it would almost be enough to make one fool the fates and quit!

It is difficult to imagine anyone with sense enough in his head to be the manager or editor of a magazine of any sort, kind or description, really believing that there never was a case of plague in California and that the whole "plague scare" was merely a deep-laid plot of the Marine Hospital Service. Of course it is possible that some such idiot may be alive and may be running a magazine and may really believe that tommyrot; "all things are possible but some of them are darn scarce." When the "Twentieth Century Magazine" publishes that sort of article and sends slips broadcast over the country calling attention to it, it is a good deal easier to believe that the magazine has been "influenced" to publish the article and that some one has paid for it and paid for advertising it. The slip in question says that "The writer shows up the reasons for declaring San Francisco an infected port, and says that no alleged case of bubonic plague in San Francisco was ever diagnosed as such by the attending physician, while the victim was alive or after death." That is just a plain lie. The statement has all the

earmarks of coming from the tainted news bureau of the "league for medical freedom," a savory organization which is spending many thousands of dollars in the attempt to defeat any national legislation for a bureau or department of public health. The attempt is being made to fight and attack every sort of public health measure, not only national but state, and it is strongly probable that we shall see some of this work at Sacramento during the present session of the legislature. If there is anything that people who make their money dishonestly will not do in order to keep up the deception, it is beyond human imagination to guess what that thing may be.

It has been suggested that there has been so much criticism of "proprietary" medicines, in the last few

GOOD REMEDIES. years, and because so many of them have been shown to be fraudulent or to have made fraudulent or exaggerated claims, that

many physicians have come to think all "proprietary" preparations are not deserving of their attention. This is far from the fact; many of the most valuable remedies that we have are proprietary preparations. They have been submitted to the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry, the Council has found their composition to be as claimed and the statements of the manufacturers not exaggerated. They are put up and marketed in a way to appeal only to physicians and there is every reason why they should receive professional recognition and be used as indicated. Many such are advertised in the pages of your JOURNAL; they should receive your intelligent examination and study and you should use them in order to determine their value, in your hands, in the treatment of your patients. It is distinctly to your advantage for you to look carefully through the advertisements in your JOURNAL and to see what remedies are there presented to you which you have not tried; nothing is advertised in these pages that is not worth your inspection and that is not in every way honest and reliable. Send for the literature on these things; send for samples; make use of the remedies till you find their place; and let the manufacturer know that you are taking an interest in him and his welfare and that you appreciate the fact that he is honestly preparing and marketing his products under the rules of the Council. This will help him, it will help your JOURNAL and it will help you, for you can not know too much about the remedies available in the treatment of your patients. But beware of the preparation that has not been submitted to the Council and approved by it; it may be all right, but the chances are that there is something wrong with it.

One of our members has written to the JOURNAL calling attention to a very dirty practice in most pastry stores—and possibly in other shops, though the special case in point was a pastry shop.

DIRTY AND DANGEROUS. In many of these, the paper for wrapping packages, cakes, bread, etc., is in sheets and when the saleswoman reaches for a sheet of